



INL researcher Vicki Thompson, speaking at a recent news conference, led the team that developed Antibody Profiling Identification technology, which won a 2008 R&D 100 Award.

## **INL researchers win 2008 R&D 100 Award**

By Keith Arterburn, *INL Communications*

Nine Idaho National Laboratory researchers were honored during a July 11 news conference announcing that they won an award during the 2008 R&D Magazine world-wide competition for the top 100 new products and technologies of the year.

Led by Vicki Thompson, an INL research team has developed Antibody Profiling Identification (AbP ID), a rapid, inexpensive method to identify forensic evidence based on unique individual auto-antibody patterns.

About receiving this international award, Thompson said, "We have been working on this technology for ten years. To get this award is really exciting for us. When you get outside recognition like this, it makes you feel that you are doing something important."

With this award, INL now has won 38 international R&D 100 awards since 1986, earning a 26.5 percent selection rate.

INL Deputy Laboratory Director David Hill said, "These R&D 100 Awards give us a measure of validation for the fact that the work done here is important and relevant to the outside world. When people take jobs at a national lab, by and large, they do it because they want to make a difference in solving the problems of the day."

Speaking about the AbP ID research team, Bill Rogers, INL associate laboratory director for Energy and Environment, said, "These people are really superstars and in addition they are magnets for these R&D 100 Awards." He outlined the winning research team's track record: Bill Apel has earned four R&D 100 Awards, Vicki Thompson and Elizabeth Taylor three, and Greg Lancaster and retired INL employee Gordon Lassahn both have earned two. He also noted, "Overall, our biotech group, which is a small focused group, has earned six of these awards."

AbP ID incorporates a testing system and innovative pattern recognition software to expedite identifications. Industry experts see AbP ID as an important complementary tool to DNA processing.

Identity Sciences, LLC, of Georgia ([www.identitysciences.com](http://www.identitysciences.com)), has licensed the technology and is preparing products for market. "We believe that Antibody Profiling Identification will complement DNA testing and aid forensic experts in solving cases more quickly," Identity Sciences Chief Executive Officer Gene Venesky said.

The winners of this coveted award will be honored at a special dinner held on Navy Pier in Chicago in October 2008.

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